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Royal College of Surgeons  
respectfully presented by  
M. L. Este F.R.C.S.

These historical Reminiscences  
printed for private circulation and  
distribution among friends, were sent  
to Galignani, and to the Institut  
at Paris, in December 1858. and  
June 1859, were also sent to the  
heads of Departments at home  
and kindly received.

In the middle of January 1860  
to the astonishment of Europe, the  
extraordinary Manifesto of Louis  
Napoleon was issued in favour  
of Peace and free Commerce, at  
variance with the proceedings of  
two preceding years; An explanation  
of the strange event was given fully  
and facetiously by an ingenious  
Critic, Punch, in two Representations  
viz Cobden giving to Louis Napoleon  
his first Lessons in free trade.  
and 2<sup>ndly</sup>, In his True Lovers Knot, - A  
French Ribbon Binding our Gracious  
Queen to Louis Napoleon. { M. L.  
Ridondo castiger Mores } Este



# C ENGLAND

## IN RELATION WITH FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

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THESE remarks, are from the journal of an Octogenarian Officer, in retirement, who held high medical appointments from 1799, abroad, up to 1817. His first services were in Egypt, with Sir Ralph Abercrombie, and (in 1800-1) Lord Hutchinson. From practical knowledge of the countries and languages of the Mediterranean, he was first employed there, diplomatically, as well as medically, by Lord Hutchinson ; with the Turkish Chief, with several English Generals, (Doyle, Moore, Sir H. Turner,) with Sir I. B. Warren, Sir Bladen Capel, R.N., and lastly with Nelson, afterwards Commander-in Chief in the Mediterranean, and Duke of Bronti, in Sicily, with extraordinary powers—diplomatic as well as naval. He was employed by Nelson, whom he had previously known in Italy, at Sir William Hamilton's. His connection with Nelson continued to the end ; and would have continued longer had Nelson's life been spared at Trafalgar, (as may be seen in the 6th volume of the "*Nelson letters and Dispatches*," published by Government, pages 132, 215, 256, 257, 258, 259, and afterwards in the *Life and Recollections of the Rev. A. J. Scott, D.D.*, Lord Nelson's Chaplain, moreover, his private, confidential Secretary, and companion, published in 1842, page 179. In 1812, the Author was promoted and sent to Lisbon, was there put in medical charge of the Heavy Cavalry, H. Brigade, was continued in that charge under Wellington and Picton, through 1813-14-15-16, up to 17, in Portugal, Spain, South of France, Toulouse, in the long march from Toulouse to Boulogne-sur-mer, and afterwards in the Netherlands, and in the march therefrom to Paris, with the Army of Occupation, English and Prussians, under Blucher.

ITALY, BEFORE THE FIRST INVASION AND REVOLUTIONS  
IN 1796.

For many years, up to the summer of 1796—all Italy had enjoyed great wealth and prosperity, from extended commercial intercourse with England. All other countries *connected with* England, derived similar advantages from the same sources, though not to the same extent.

One great grievance prevailed through Northern Italy, through both the Lombardies, down southward as far as Padua, Este, Ferrara, namely, *oppression*, and implacable hatred of foreign government. Even the Guelphs and Ghibellines were united in strong remonstrance—all those charming countries, abounding in the necessaries and luxuries of life, were otherwise at ease; and in increasing affluence until 1796, when a terrible reverse, with all the horrors of revolutions and of wars were first inflicted upon Italy.

Up to that date, in the cities and districts between the Tyrolean Alps in the north, down to the Gulph of Tarentum, in the foot of the “boot,” the extreme south, everything was English—cottons, table-cloths, hardware, wedgwood, woollens, manufactured silks, &c., all, and everywhere English. While merchant princes—English—were taking away most of the raw materials, and natural produce of the countries, in exchange for their manufactured articles. Arkwright, Bolton, and Watt, Wedgwood, *cum multis aliis*, were well known—while the English sojourners, long settled in Italy, living luxuriously, and well educating their families, were revered and worshipped by the Italians, especially at Florence, and at Naples; Leghorn, the port of Florence and of mid-Italy, and Naples, had both for years been English cities.

Charming Venice, the queen of the Adriatic, was called “the opulent.” About twenty mercantile houses



there, were thriving on the commerce with Milan, with both the Lombardies, and partly with the Tyrol.

The British factory, as it long was called, under the Grant, Saunders, and others, had their houses of business at Leghorn, while their families were living voluptuously, and economically at Florence. Rome was supplied from Florence, and partly from Civita Vecchia. An English banker, Jenkins, was the Torlonia of that period, at Rome. He had been useful to the Pope, and to the English—he consequently had considerable influence there.

NAPLES.—The position of Naples during many years was truly *extraordinary*. Shortly after his marriage, Sir William Hamilton was sent Ambassador to Naples, and so excellent an Ambassador did he become, that he was repeatedly thanked, and remunerated by Parliament, for the influence he had obtained, and for his manner of conducting the English affairs at Naples. He, twice, had rescued the king from dangers, at the peril of his own life; the then King of Naples, ever remembered and felt grateful for such transactions.

Nelson, afterwards Commander-in-Chief in the Mediterranean, with extraordinary powers had rendered essential services, and had placed the then king, under similar obligations.

Lady Hamilton on arrival at Naples, devoted herself to the study of Italian and of music, under masters of the Paisiello school. Quick, sagacious, of prepossessing manners and appearance, she became Mistress of the Robes, and the constant companion of the Queen. For years, the Hamiltons had a voice potential at the Court.

The Prime Minister of Naples, was English, Sir W. Acton, with an Anglo-Italian staff.

The Banker of the Court—the Coutts of Naples, was Gibbs, a near relation of Sir Vickery Gibbs.

The great commercial houses were all English, Messrs. Season, the Nobles, William Macaulay, and others, all merchant princes, had long been living in great enjoyment at Naples. Some did business with

the United States, (Broadbent). English ship-builders, and artificers were in the dock-yards. Some English officers were in the Naples navy, and in other departments.

The then King, had powerful reasons for attachment to England. Almost all the *sulphur* and *salt* from Sicily and Naples were taken by the English for their enormous factories of sulphuric acid. The *oils* from Gallipoli, and Monopoli; from the province of Apuglia, wines, fruits, wheat, and maccaroni, were carried away by the English; curiosities and antiquities also, were in considerable request.

Such were the truly *glorious halcyon* days of Naples, and indeed of Italy, and of the Mediterranean, during the long embassy of Sir William Hamilton, up to 1796. Out of respect and gratitude, the King of Naples conferred on Nelson, the *Dukedom of Bronti*, in Sicily. Since 1796, the happy days have been succeeded by the various blessings of *liberty, equality*—the *rights of man*, and of that *summum bonum* of human felicity, *fraternization*!

*Fraternization*, the supreme felicity, not intended for all—was a “*bonne bouche*,” reserved for a favoured few, for the *elite*, such as were to be annexed to the great republic, and to be made dependent on it. After a victory, the desired *district* was to be punished; overawed; stripped of everything;—was to be afterwards regenerated, elevated into a *new county*, dukedom, marquisate, or kingdom, and placed under the tender mercies of a hero, with a high title, such as Duke of Abrantes, Duke of Dalmatia, King of Bavaria, King of Saxony. These kings were made from Electors to be further honoured, by close alliance, offensive and defensive, with the parent state.

During six years, attempts at fraternization in Spain, were made in vain. Armies after armies were sent there to be destroyed by the guerillas in arms, all over the Peninsula; who, with the assistance of their allies, the British and Portuguese, cleared their own country to beyond the Pyreneas; so completely did they turn

the tables upon their enemy in 1813-14 ; though at home, they, in full force, in strong positions, under their most able Generals, Soult, Massena, Clausel, &c., they were driven from the Bidassoa, from Bayonne, Bordeaux, from Orthez, where there was truly hard-work across the fine plain of Tarbes to Toulouse, and beyond it. A garrison had been left at Lourde, and the bridge of Toulouse was prepared, on each side, first, for defence, afterwards for destruction if necessary.

After the battle of Toulouse, at nightfall, the French generals withdrew from that city as rapidly, but as quietly as possible, to the eastward. At break of day the mayor and a deputation from Toulouse waited upon the British, Head Quarters, on the height commanding the city. First, to announce the *evacuation* by the French troops during the night ; secondly, the *surrender* of the city, to present the *keys* of the city, with hopes, that further mischief might be prevented.

The keys and surrender were accepted, and assurances were given of protection to the city.

The mayor and deputation had scarcely retired from their mission, when orders were sent to the Heavy Cavalry, to pursue the French, along the Canal of Langedoc.

A few hours afterwards, expresses were sent to stop the troops in pursuit. Intelligence had been received from Paris of the peace. The British troops and allies were counter-marched. The fine countries between Toulouse and Bordeaux, were allotted to them, on the south of the Garronne, to be in quarters there for two months, with orders to get all the men, horses, and ambulances in the best condition, for the long march across France, from Toulouse and Bordeaux to Boulogne and Calais, at the expiration of the term mentioned—so ended those Peninsular campaigns in 1813-14.



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## England, in relation with other Countries.

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### REVOLUTIONS AND THEIR WARS.

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AN old Philosopher on troublesome times, says,

“Then,” true and faithful, “sure to lose,  
Which ever way the contest goes,  
Is always nick’d, or else hedged in,  
Whether the parties lose or win ;  
Whilst power *usurped*, like *stolen* delight,  
Is more bewitching than the right ;  
And when the times begin to alter,  
None rise so high as from the Halter.”

What confirmations of these assertions have been presented to the world, again and again, in the many successive changes and *bouiversments* since 1790. Many of the worst have been raised into power. Into *power*, not used to improve, but to torment, to punish, to ruin Europe, with the infliction of monstrous evils upon themselves, and the very countries of their birth and exaltation !

Persons of wealth and influence can easily obtain respect, confidence, and attachment ; will more easily reign in the hearts of their subjects than those who extort subjection by violence, intemperance, and passion.

Men will do more from affection, than from hatred and execration.

The disasters in Italy, Austria, Russia, Spain, and all the other countries, speedily evacuated after horrible warfare, in 1811-12-13-14, should be remembered, to guide mankind in future proceedings towards happiness and gratitude.

*Insatiable Ambition, Vanity, Self-importance, and Morbid Irritability* have been hitherto the sources of evil—the bane of the world.

*Stability, Temperance, Discretion, Impartial Laws, and Justice* are the great *ligaments* which bind man to man—which bind all men to their country ; are the sources of union at home, of strength and respect abroad. In governments, as continually changing as the moon, these blessing are not to be expected. *Vivre, et laisser vivre*, an old axiom long forgotten, should be revived. Our immortal Poet, in charming expressions tells us,

“Reasons whole pleasure—all the joys of sense  
Lie in three words—Health, Peace, and Competence.  
Health must consist with *temperance* alone ;  
And Peace ! Oh, *Virtue* ! Peace is all thine own.”

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N.

IN the first number, the blessings, wealth, and prosperity, long enjoyed by Spain, France, Italy, and Turkey, from extended intercourse, social and commercial, with England, were considered. The evil consequences of revolutions and of wars to all these countries, were recalled to recollection.

What happened in the Mediterranean occurred in the Baltic—great similarity in the events—and in dreadful consequences in both seas, should afford useful lessons to Europe, to France particularly.

Inordinate vanity and ambition would view the Mediterranean as a *French Lake*. The same causes, operating in the north, with the same effect, led to the supposition that the Baltic should become a *Russian Lake*.

At the Congress of Vienna, in 1814-15, it was unanimously determined by all the powers (under the presidency of Talleyrand) that the *great Rivers*, especially the Scheldt, and the Danube (unnaturally, irrationally, and wickedly *closed*,) should be thrown *open* to all, as the highways of commerce. Some who so voted are now so insane, in 1859, as to think of closing, of blocking up two *great* seas, the *Mediterranean* and the *Baltic*.

The Emperor PAUL was induced so to believe, and unfortunately for himself and for all his neighbours to act upon such belief. He headed the northern coalition *against* England. Never was there a more egregious mistake! During long series of years the intercourse between England and the Baltic was enormous, especially with Russia. At Petersburg all was English, even more so than at Naples. Thousands of English carriages were sent yearly to Russia. The Russian Court used to apply to England for Court Physicians and Surgeons, for Naval Architects, Engineers, and Officers ;

our Dockyards and our Navy were open to them, Russian Midshipmen were admitted on board our ships of war ; English science and arts were invited and encouraged. Drs. Chrichton and Wylie were among the last Court Physicians, they all had the rank and appointments of Russian generals. Dr. Wylie accompanied the Emperor to France in 1814-15, and was Medical Director General of the Russian Army ; was made a Baronet by George IV, at the request of the Emperor of Russia, in London. Samuel Bentham, a brother of Jeremy Bentham, was sent from England, with others, as chief Naval Architect and Engineer. The Russians were then working on the plans of the Empress Catherine, at Odessa, and in the Crimea. Samuel Bentham received the rank and appointment of Admiral ; he had to superintend the fortifications at Odessa, and in the Crimea. Some Turkish ships of war, with threatening appearance, were hovering about, as if to interrupt him in his works ; he, in his character of Admiral, put himself in command of the Russian ships, sallied forth, had a sharp brush with the Turks, chased them away, finished his work, and was honoured and rewarded. He became *Sir* Samuel in Russia.

To arrive shortly at the very zenith of suicidal derangement, the Emperor PAUL seized the ships, cargoes, crews, depôts of the English, and of English merchandise.

The resident English were arrested as Detenues, and sent into the interior. All his ports were shut—all his ships, great and small, armed to the teeth, were ordered out against his best customers, the *English*, who carried away almost all the valuable produce of his country, tallow, tar, timber, hemp, bread-stuffs, naval stores, &c., all were banished.

All his neighbours, Danes, Swedes, and Norwegians, were compelled to close and arm against England ; they did so to *their cost*.

“ *Quiquid delirant reges, plectuntus archivi.*” What a complete confirmation of Horace was here afforded to



the world by the Emperor PAUL. The first and greatest sufferers who remonstrated were the ancient hereditary nobility at Moscow. They were followed by the Merchant Princes of St. Petersburg, whose occupation was gone. The cities, the provinces, the serfs were ruined. Remonstrances were pouring in from several ports in the Baltic—all in vain—all were unheeded—insultingly rejected, until a sort of *leveè* amongst the higher classes insisted upon a change. The Emperor PAUL was found dead in his apartment. His successor immediately released all English ships, cargoes, crews, and individuals. Sent immediately to England to propose reparation for damages done by the embargoes, and to solicit the revival of friendly intercourse, social and commercial, such as had long before existed. However, it was not until after the wonderful achievements of Parker and Nelson, first in *forcing entrance* to the Baltic, and afterwards at Copenhagen, the *great northern coalition* was completely destroyed and scattered to the winds ; and that the ancient commerce, the work of ages, could be restored ; that commerce, so long in growing, never should have been disturbed. Nothing but insanity could think of such destruction, so difficult to replace.

COMMERCE is not to be taken by assault like a city, not by a *coup de main*, or *coup d'etat* ; it grows out of wisdom, expands and flourishes gradually under *stability*, *probity*, *perseverance*, *simplicity*, with great precision and punctuality.

England is the seat of the *soul* of the commercial world. All countries know it, *intelligent* France knows it well. Her Ministers have repeatedly been answered by her Chambers of Commerce ; eminent financiers, when asked what they (ministers) could do to improve commerce ? *Bien des remerciements. Laissez nous faire !* Do not interfere with us, no encroachments, was the *constant request* of the Commercial Chambers at Paris, in the days of Louis XIV, and previously ; so under Louis XVI to Necker and De Calonne. In the reign of Louis Phillipe, and since, France has

been told frequently in her senate, by legislators well acquainted with England and modern history, and at great commercial meetings, "The wars with England have ever proved ruinous, and history has convinced and shown us, that the *closer and more extended our intercourse with England*, the greater will be the prosperity of France. *Laissez nous faire*, the admirable answer in France, was adopted elsewhere, became echoed proverbially through Europe, and has been followed by another *axiom*, also founded on experience, "*L'Empire c'est la paix*." Notwithstanding such incontrovertible facts modern madness is reviving the former ancient war-hoop, &c. of *perfidie Albion*, to renew the curses formerly inflicted on the world for purposes strictly satanic.

Among the sources of evil—vanity, insatiable ambition, and morbid irritability are mentioned. Not a few men of courage, who can command armies, seek reputation at the cannon's mouth, can rule the storm of mighty war, have feelings so exquisitely delicate as to be like men without a skin. A squib or cracker in noisy newspapers, will alarm and drive them from their propriety. This is a serious public misfortune. Men in high place and power should be organized like the *thick-skinned* animals, (the elephant and hippopotamus) should belong to the class of *pacchidermata*, and not be driven from a good even course by an occasional *squall*.

No men are so largely and severely censured as those in high station and office in England. Lord Chesterfield said to his son, "The prime minister is generally the best abused man in the country."

Our great people, from experience and principle, regardless of such censure, pursue their course. They know John Bull to be a *diamond*, though sometimes rough—and jealous of his *constitutional* rights and principles. They also know those just rights are to the *state*, what the *safety valve* is to the steam engine. Free press, and *parlance*, prevent explosion, lead to salutary alterations; a little noise and fuss ensue but

no revolution ; all goes off in a *phiz*, a rush of noisy vapour.

Though much has been written of Bonaparte I, there are still many interesting particulars not yet generally known of him, all confirmatory, upon his *own authority*, of what has been, and may still be remarked of him should time and opportunity hereafter so require.

The circumstances under which Nelson acted at Copenhagen are so truly *astounding* they cannot be too frequently referred to.

Inestimable to England, to Europe, were the services of Nelson at Copenhagen.

The histories exhibit the boldness of conception and of execution in the achievements. Truly formidable was the *Northern League* against England. RUSSIA had 47 ships-of-the-line, ready and preparing, besides frigates, in the Baltic. SWEEDEN had 18 ships and 14 frigates, with many galleys and small craft, all ready, manned and equipped. DENMARK had 23 ships and 14 frigates, &c. These immense naval forces were confederated to crush the British blockades in the channel, and to ruin the supremacy of England.

“ But hearts of oak were our ships,  
British hearts were our men.”

18 ships-of-the-line, with 4 of our frigates and many bomb vessels, with crews of sterling *blue jackets*, under Parker and Nelson, sailed from Yarmouth Roads, for the Baltic, in March, 1801. The approaches and entrances to the Baltic were so blocked and defended by such a display of ships, forts, gun boats, and batteries, fixed and floating, as to set all assailants at defiance.

Existence on the surface of the waters seemed impossible under resistances so tremendous. Moreover, all the *buoys* had been removed from the narrow shallow channels, so as to render their navigation impracticable. In the face of all such obstacles, the indomitable spirit of Britons, with favourable wind, prevailed. Under such men and such leaders, under such naval skill and intrepidity all was subdued, and they rushed through.



On April 2nd, Nelson was sent on to the attack with 12 ships-of-the-line, the bomb vessels, and smaller craft, while Admiral Parker, with the remaining ships in reserve, kept closely watching to afford assistance where required, or finally to decide the contest under any uncertainty of victory.

The battle commenced at 10 a.m. Three of Nelson's ships grounded in proceeding to their station, but nine remained for him to work with. Before 2 p.m. the whole front line of six Danish ships with 11 large floating batteries were all taken, burned, or destroyed. The Danes fought desperately; the loss on both sides was awful. In the space within  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles 1000 cannon were working destruction. The Danes, more exposed, more numerous than the British, suffered most; besides, 6000 prisoners were reckoned, after the affray, in the ships.

Nelson ever mentioned the operations at Copenhagen as the most awful and the most important of all his chief achievements.

The sublimity of Nelson shone, not only in his actions, but powerfully in his prayers and gratitude to the Almighty. After Copenhagen, he sprang up with thanks to the Supreme, for having made him the humble instrument of a great victory in the glorious cause of religion, order, and justice, honourable to his country and beneficial to the world at large.

His chaplain and private secretary, the Rev. Dr. Scott, represented the sentiments and expressions of Nelson, and his fervour on these occasions as sublime and heart-stirring. So at the Nile and Trafalgar, &c.

Rapidity in naval war was indispensable for success, at Copenhagen. Nelson began and completed his work before many of his opponents knew of it. He arrived, saw, and conquered. He could truly assert with the ancient errant knight, in happy verse:—

“ *Cæsar* himself could never say  
He gained *two* victories in *one* day,  
As I have done: who can say, *twice*, I,  
In *one* day *veni, vidi, vici!* ”



Oh ! Louis Napoleon, and ye rulers of France, what *easy, glorious* opportunities are now open to you, absolutely inviting you, by shortest ways, to certain happiness, wealth, and prosperity, for yourselves and for the charming country and climate in which you reign. You have only to follow those courses quietly and strictly, and *bonâ fide*, for blessings inestimable, not attainable in *any other way*, for yourselves, for Italy, Spain, &c., with yourselves—the finest portion of Europe.

Countries should not fight for an *idea*, or empty name. Should it gratify pride to call an important sea a *lake*, be it so ; but let their new-named sea be the highway for the commerce and prosperity of all—open not closed, in opposition to nature and all reason. There is a *St. George's* channel, an *Irish* channel, and others, but all open as the air to France, and to the rest, even for home coasting water carriage.

Should there not, in justice, be a reciprocity of politeness, even with Albion, *perfide Albion*, most erroneously, wantonly so termed, as a cover to conceal, and in a manner to justify selfish evil propensities ; all countries have their long shore sharks, their contractors and purveyors, a restless, turbulent race, hostile to social improvements. The mischiefs in France, of their own creation, have been attributed to *Albion perfide*, to throw odium, and to keep up a hostile spirit against England. This can be proved on high authority, no less than the *great* NAPOLEON himself !

In these remarks nothing is stated on individual opinion ; all advanced has been based on acknowledged authority and on experience. TALLEYRAND, as *extraordinary* in his career as NAPOLEON I, in warfare, together with B— C—, another great and good adviser, were both permitted and *solicited* to give *their* own opinions and *their counsel* freely on great occasions ; they both dissuaded, implored Napoleon not to think of entering either *Spain* or *Russia*—they predicted what happened, and his downfall, if he did. In 1811, Napoleon was tottering ; his best days were over. The

horrible affairs in Russia, the battles of the *Boradino*, before, and at Moscow, and in the *retreat* therefrom, upset him. To all the active Russian generals, with their divisions, anticipating him, were joined those destructives *Blucher, Platoff*, with their *Cossacks of the Don*. Their terrible operations, ever continued, till after Waterloo, and in both invasions of France, in which they materially assisted. England had sent all her troops to Portugal and Spain in 1811-12-13. It was only at Waterloo, and on the second invasion, England had a few, *very* few English troops. Her army at Waterloo consisted of a German Legion, Hanoverians, Dutch, and lastly, the *brave* Belges, to oppose the highly organised and best disciplined continental troops of military France. England's chief army was then in the south, at Toulouse, Orthez, and Bayo  ne. What were the remarks and exclamations of the French all along the retreat from Moscow, before the Niemen and after it. The exclamation was not *against perfide Albion*; but, violent against Blucher and his Cossacks, *le sacr   ivrogne toujours sur nos epcuiles* was the cry; such in the subsequent battles—during the first invasion, the *sacr   ivrogne* with his cossacks had pushed on to *Fountainbleau*, the Prussians were sending regiment after regiment, *thrice* the numbers expected, with their avowed intention of destroying Paris. They were stopped in their project by the firmness of the Emperor of Russia, and the decided conduct of the British Ambassador. They were the *Saviours* of Paris, and the *protectors* from mischief on the first, and more especially on the second invasion. It was not against *perfide Albion* that Napoleon himself kept raving, but against his old disturber, Blucher—the *sacr   ivrogne*, and the *perfidious* Cossacks always upon his shoulders.

At Waterloo, the number of English was very small, so small that the accusations of all the mischief to Albion became ridiculous, as was the supposition that the battle, so hardly contested, was gained by a comparatively small platoon; though small, a celebrated gene-

reasserted, of *great solidarité*. What happened, when the last efforts were progressing at Waterloo? Napoleon discovered that his own general, Grouchy, had been anticipated, out-matched by Blucher and the cossacks; when he saw the old *sacrè ivrogne* just above him, preparing again to spring upon his shoulders, he immediately turned and issued his final order, *sauve qui peut*; the contest in front suddenly ceased. Rush, and tumultuous fight for the road and for escape among the French, blocked up the roads. The British cavalry were charging in pursuit—the Prussian Cossacks were pouring grape and canister in upon the tumultuous *meleè* in the obstructed road below.

The *sacrè ivrogne* did spring furiously upon the shoulders, took fast hold; nothing could induce him to let go his gripe. Officers were sent to remind him, that Grouchy, with 36,000 French troops, was in his rear; to stop from entering France until the allies joined him. All in vain! Blucher's reply was,—he had the game in his hands—he was fixed—and on the shoulders he would stick, until the *end* of the chapter. That the Prussians, troops and land wehr, were actually marching *upon* Paris in great numbers, and he hoped their other allies would speedily follow. Napoleon, after the last order, *sauve qui peut*, retired quietly, by private way, towards Paris. A special messenger was sent to find and stop him, to inform him that his empress, &c., had *quitted* Paris, that all was lost there, that Paris was *capitulating*—to dissuade him from going there—but to proceed as privately as possible to Fontainebleau. Napoleon followed the good counsel.

Who gained the credit of the closing victory at Waterloo? Was it *perfide Albion*, or the Cossack?

An old philosopher says,

“When the fight becomes a chase,  
He wins the day, who wins the race.”

What said Napoleon? why, *sauve qui peut*, old Blucher is behind me!

The two *northern* invasions of France, were carried



almost entirely by the *northern powers* themselves; they, after enormous losses of men and means, exasperated, though weakened, did the work in earnest, against the best disciplined organized armies of military France. What lessons these events should afford to Europe and to France herself.

The French, quick, lively, imaginative, sensitive, and warm in their likings and dislikings, will seldom take the trouble of *thinking* for themselves, are easily impressed and led astray by their superiors.

During the Peninsular wars, Napoleon I, having subdued and punished all the powers and all the great cities of continental Europe, had the *Americans* also against England. All the world against England, without any serious disadvantage to her, but injuriously to her enemies.

Notwithstanding such experience, and the subsequent enjoyments, the progressive advantages of a *forty years'* peace, a few years ago improvements were made in the instruments of destruction—in ships, batteries, and fortifications. France and her allies were induced to believe, that, if England could be crushed and extinguished, *France* would immediately, at once step into all the extended commerce, and, also at once, into all naval superiority of England. These erroneous suppositions, delusions, have been industriously circulated on the continent; have been considered impossibilities in the *north*. Former artful measures and intrigues have been revived, to rouse Europe again to war, with a repetition of all former inflictions on a more aggravated scale than ever. The old war-hoop of *perfidious Albion*, has resounded—the hungry colonels again clamour to *ravage her dens with fire and sword*. What has followed the rash announcement of such intended ravings? why, great gloom all over industrious intelligent France; her visitors were leaving her; her commerce was dwindling to former insignificance, even temporary success would be fatal to the invaders themselves. Much wanton wickedness and needless carnage might be



accomplished—but what happened to the invaders in Spain, Italy, Germany, and in Russia after Moscow, and elsewhere, would certainly befall them, with ten-fold disaster, should England only to herself prove true. Recollecting the magnanimity, bravery, generosity, and experience formerly displayed by the Emperor of Russia, no rational person can for a moment suppose that he will ever lend himself to a repetition of the insanities of his predecessor, PAUL, to measures so injurious to Russia and to her neighbours in the Baltic.

Why should France go out of an easy course open to her prosperity and to general happiness, to inflict further evils upon herself and other countries? Has she not *military* glory enough already?

France has immense advantages over other countries! Nature has been extensively bountiful to her. Fine climate—beautiful country—the necessities and luxuries of life all in abundance, and excellent in quality, and almost unrivalled attractions. France needs only a *quiet* course to attain speedily prosperity. Her own axioms should be her constant text, *laissez faire l'empire cest la paix*. To the natural attractions, France has other artificial inducements in the arts and sciences, pleasing manners and hospitalities of her lively, ingenious people, her easy education and amusements, &c. By the cultivation of all these advantages, multitudes would be drawn into France from other countries for health, recreation, enjoyment, social and intellectual, and last but not least, for commercial affairs. Larger numbers and larger prosperity than ever would flow into France. While her attractions would be thrown away and lost under continual abuse, and invasions of *perfidious Albion*.

Persons in high station and power lose sight of one great consideration. While conducting anxious governments, they have toilsome days, sleepless nights, corroding cares, from censures, jealousies, party contests, &c. The constant labour of the understanding is the severest labour! hostile to health and life, very destructive to

the vain, to the ambitious, and to the morbidly irritable.

PITT, the great minister, very irritable, was prematurely destroyed soon after *forty*. NAPOLEON I: under what constantly destructive anxieties the life of that great man was shortened, and he died prematurely. NELSON—had he not fallen at Trafalgar, shattered in body and health, he could not long have survived. His retirement had been granted him several months *before* the events at Trafalgar. He anticipated great events, and his high spirit kept him from retirement. Other instances of shortened life are omitted for brevity. When made general, in 1796, Napoleon I commanded republicans, was himself an advocate for free institutions, *i. e.*, for rational liberty. Disgusted with rabid Republicanism, and with red Jacobinism, before 1800, Napoleon I changed entirely, became *monarchical*, ARCHI-*monarchical*, and lastly *imperial*. He wanted to give good government and stability to France; law, justice, finance, and commerce had all been destroyed.

Napoleon I, impatient for order and stability, at the peace of Amiens, wished at once to recall the Bourbons, and to restore to the nobility such of their confiscated estates as remained unsold. His old advisers, Talleyrand and B—C—, rushed in to check his ardour; the work might be done gradually, but only by degrees. Though the Jacobinical Directory had been rescued—though serious riots had been quelled—astonishing victories gained by Bonaparte—the Directory and Jacobins powerful in Paris, and though northern France were jealous of Bonaparte, and dreaded his great popularity, as well as his influence over the army—Bonaparte *detested* the Jacobins; they would have been glad of an opportunity for upsetting him. The mere mention of Bourbon restoration at the time would have ruined him. He yielded to advice, and was made Consul; he then set to work most earnestly and successfully for *safety* and for *stability*. He planned his great work, the “*Code Napoleon*,” to give assurance.

He assembled many most eminent legislators, under third consul, Cumbaceres, to undertake it. That work, universally admired and adopted, raised and established him in public estimation.

The French, like the Romans with their conquerors, looked up to Napoleon, not only as a warrior, but as a *parent*, and a restorer of good institutions. He gained another step towards stability, was made first consul for *life*, with succession to his son. Warm in their likings and in their dislikings, the French gave him latitude and extended powers. Had he been satisfied with his firm position, strongly pressed by his advisers to stop and be contented, he might have remained firmly fixed, and in a position to do good.

At first, and for a short period, the peace of Amiens was expected to be *lasting*; an empire of peace was then expected, with rejoicings in France and through Europe. Commercial connections and operations were based on such belief, soon proved ruinous to the projectors.

To what good purposes were the large powers employed? Unfortunately for himself, for France, for Europe, *vanity, inordinate ambition*, those destroyers of all good, were in full possession of a great mind; intoxicated with vast means for universal dominion. He created himself *Emperor*, to act with more effect. The peace of Amiens was curtailed. Wars were renewed with inveteracy. France was twice invaded by the northern sovereigns, and by England, Spain, and Portugal on the south. Two abdications completed the ruin of Napoleon, who might have lived long, with enjoyment, had he followed an opposite course; he could have showered down happiness upon others, with blessings to himself. Very strange delusions, unfounded, and irrational, led to the destruction. The downfall of greatness, even in a bad cause, can never be pleasing to generous minds.

May good grow out of evil, may his successors, profiting by experience, restore tranquillity to a disturbed



world, and lasting enjoyments to themselves. They have good ground to go upon, with comparatively easy work before them.

An old philosopher mentions *vanity* as *omnivorous*, the extinguisher of all virtues. Horace says much the same of *ambition*; he rejoices in being quite free, and far removed from ambition. “*Prava ambitione procul.*

“Hæc est  
Vita solutorum misera ambitione graviqua,  
His me consolor, victurum suavius, de si.  
Questor avus, pater atque meus putraus que fuissent!  
Privatus que magis vivam te rege beatus.”

Horace, in privacy, had a life more blessed than that of a *king*.

FINIS.